

Message Text

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16
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 IO-13 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 SAM-01 (ISO) W

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P 230926Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0797

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: P K EFOR, TH, TW,

SUBJECT: PRAPHAT RETURNS TO TAIWAN

1. AUGUST 23 LOCAL ENGLISH AND CHINESE-LANGUAGE PRESS REPORTED PRAPHAT'S RETURN BY SPECIAL PLANE TO TAIWAN AUGUST 22. ACCORDING TO CHINESE-LANGUAGE PRESS, WHICH BASED ITS REPORTS ON A CNA DISPATCH FROM BANGKOK AS WELL AS ON LOCAL SOURCES, THE ROC AGREED TO PERMIT PRAPHAT TO RETURN IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM THE THAI GOVERNMENT.

2. THE CNA DISPATCH FROM BANGKOK REPORTED THAT PRAPHAT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MINISTER OF DEFENSE THAWIT, MINISTER OF INDUSTRIES CHATCHAI, COMMANDER OF FIRST ROYAL ARMY YOT, AND DEPUTY COMMANDER OF POLICE CHUMPON.

3. IN CONVERSATION WITH POLCOUNS, MOFA DIRECTOR OF EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS SHEN JEN-PIAO (ANDREW SHEN), WHO WAS APPARENTLY HIGHEST-RANKING MOFA OFFICIAL AT AIRPORT TO GREET PRAPHAT, SAID THAT PRAPHAT HAD ARRIVED VIA TAI 707, ACCOMPANIED BY TWO DAUGHTERS AND NINE OTHER PASSENGERS. ONLY PRAPHAT AND HIS DAUGHTERS DISEMBARKED, WITH OTHERS APPARENTLY RETURNING TO BANGKOK ON SAME PLANE. SHEN,

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WHO SERVED EIGHT YEARS IN BANGKOK, SAID THAT AMONG THE NINE

UNIDENTIFIED PASSENGERS, HE RECOGNIZED ONLY MINISTER OF
INDUSTRIES CHU CHAI. WHILE HE BELIEVED IT UNLIKELY THAT
THAWIT WAS ON PLANE, HE COULD NOT CATEGORICALLY DENY IT.
UNGER

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